WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED AND UNSTARRED QUESTIONS SET FOR THURSDAY, THE 24th AUGUST, 2000*

Losses to DMS

† *421. SHRIKAPILSIBAL: DR.D.MASTHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an assessment has been made regarding the losses suffered by Delhi Milk Scheme after the increase of the rates of milk;

(b) if so, how much loss is being estimated now;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Commission for selling the milk has been increased during past months after increase in the rate of milk;

(d) if so, to what extent the same has been increased; and

(e) what will be additional annual financial burden on D.M.S. as a result thereof?

TlffiMIMSTEROFAGRiajUTJRE(SHRINmSH KUMAR): (a) YesSir.

(b) At present level of sale of about 220 lakh li&esof milk per day, there would be an estimated loss of Rs. 4.98 crores during the financial year 2000-01.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) The commission paid to concessionaires/vendors has been increased as follows with effect from 4.3.2000:—

Item	Prior to 4.3.2000	From 4.3.200
Commnission to concessionaire	Upto 500 Lit—6 paise/Lt	Upto 500 Lit.—40 paise/Lit.
	Above 500 Lit—4 paise/Lit	Above 500 Lit—70 paise/Lit
	Exclusive Home Delivery Depot—4paise/Lit	20 paise/Lit
Commission to Home Delivery Agents	Nil	50 paise/Lit

*The Sitting of the Rajya Sabha on Thursday, the 24th August, 2000 was adjourned on account of passing away of Shri P.R. ICumaramangalam, Minister of Power. Answers to Questions put down in the lists for that day were laid on the table of the House on Friday, the 25th August, 2000.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Item	Prior to 4.3.2000	From 4.3.200
Incentive to bulk sale	Nil	Same as for concessionaires
Remuneration to depot agents	Depot Agents: Rs. 180/per month	Rs. 600/pm
	Sr. Depot Agents: Rs. 240/per month	Rs. 750/pm

(e) The additional annual financial burden on account of increase in commission at the present level of sale is estimated at Rs. 3.60 crores.

Strategy to tackle problems of Child Labour

*422. SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are about 12 million child labour in India and out of these approximately two millions are working in hazardous industries;

(b) if so, whether Government have any focussed strategy to tackle this gigantic problem.

(c) will such a strategy only move towards solving the symptoms or will it involve making serious attempts to eradicate the problem at the root; and

(d) what are the details of the strategy and whether co-operation of State Governments and NGOs will form part of this strategy?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYNARAYAN JATIYA): (a) Authentic information on child labour is generated through the decennial census. As per the 1991 census, the total number of working children in the country is 1.128 Crores. As on December, 1999, a total* of 1,10,915 working children were identified in hazardous occupations.

(b) to (d) The National Policy on Child Labour contains an action plan for withdrawing children from work and rehabilitating them. The action plan comprises:

— A legislative action plan,

— Focussing on general development programmes for benefiting children, and

— Project-based action plans in areas of high concentration of child labour.